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Ken Rute  
Attorney for Applicant(s)

24 Jan 2001  
Date of Signature

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): **KANG TING**

Assignee: **The Regents of the University of California**

Title: **NELL-1 ENHANCED BONE MINERALIZATION**

Serial No.: **09/412,297**

Filing Date: **October 5, 1999**

Examiner: **R. Zeman**

Art Unit: **1645**

Docket No.: **M-9629 US**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D. C. 20231

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Dear Sir:

This document is filed in response to the restriction requirement dated December 5, 2000. A Change of Correspondence address and a petition to extend the period of response for one month is enclosed.

**REMARKS**

In the Office Action dated December 5, 2000, the Examiner required restriction to one of the following groups under 35 U.S.C. §121:

- Group I: Claims 1, 2, and 8-12 as drawn to methods of screening for an agent that alters NELL-1 gene expression as measured by protein expression;
- Group II: Claims 1-3-7 and 10-12 as drawn to methods of screening for an agent that alters NELL-1 gene expression as measured by RNA levels;
- Group III: Claims 13 and 24 as drawn to methods of pre-screening NELL-1 modulators by measuring specific binding of said modulator to the NELL-1 protein or nucleic acid in an animal;
- Group IV: Claims 13-16 and 19-23 as drawn to methods of pre-screening NELL-1 modulators by measuring specific binding of said modulator to the

09/412,297 NELL-1 protein;

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